SCHOOL FACT SHEET FOR HIGH SCHOOL EQUIVALENCY TESTING IN 2014 AND BEYOND

To: New Hampshire High Schools

From: Debbie Tasker, High School Equivalency Administrator,

NH Department of Education

Date: September, 2014

The GED® Tests have changed and are no longer being given in New Hampshire. The New Hampshire Department of Education adopted the HiSETTM Tests developed by Educational Testing Service to assess high school equivalency for NH students, effective January 1, 2014. Previous test-takers who did not complete and pass all sections of the GED Tests by December 31, 2013, must start over with the HiSET Tests. If you have questions, please contact me at deborah.tasker@doe.nh.gov



What remains the same?

- HiSET Tests will assess reading, writing, math, science, and social studies
- The complete test battery takes about seven hours.
- HiSET Tests require that test-takers do better than 40% of high school seniors in a national random sample (the same standard used for GED Tests in the past.)
- Test-takers who pass all sections of the HiSET test battery will receive the New Hampshire Certificate of High School Equivalency signed by the Commissioner of Education.
- In New Hampshire, students aged 16 and 17 can register for HiSET testing only if referred by school officials after demonstrating the ability to pass official practice tests. Referral forms will be similar to those used in the past for GED referrals. The forms are available on the NH Department of Education website.
- Schools may choose to offer a High School Equivalency Preparation Option Program similar to the previous GED Options. Contact Debbie Tasker for more information. <u>Deborah.tasker@doe.nh.gov</u>
- HiSET graduates may be reported as "completers" in the i4See system.

- Testing will continue to take place at approved testing centers, the same locations that provided GED Testing in the past.
- All New Hampshire testing centers will offer paper-based HiSET testing.
- Test-takers will schedule and pay for testing at their local testing center.

What will be different?

- Students referred for HiSET testing may remain enrolled in school during the testing process.
- The cost for the full battery of HiSET tests will be \$95.00.
- Some NH testing centers will offer a computer-based testing option.



- Students will register for HiSET through an online portal before being referred to a local testing center.
- Students will have the option to demonstrate "college and career readiness" by achieving a score higher than the required passing level.
- Schools will be able to obtain official practice tests by downloading the tests from the HiSET website at a cost of \$37.50 or they will be able to obtain a master copy free of charge by contacting their local testing center.